



Utah Watershed Review

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East Canyon Water Piping Proposal Results in Lawsuits

Environmentalists and anglers are suing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in connection with a plan to pipe water from East Canyon Reservoir to the Snyderville Basin near Park City. Among other proposed uses, some of the water would be used for snow-making at The Canyons ski resort.

Trout Unlimited and the Utah Rivers Council say that the Corps violated the Clean Water Act and other federal laws when it authorized the pipeline.

In a lawsuit filed in early August in U.S. District Court, the groups are seeking an order that will reverse the permits and compel the agency to do more analysis of the pipeline's effects on ecological and historic values in the watershed.

"The East Canyon Pipeline Project will have significant adverse impacts on the environment," the lawsuit contends. The suit lists nine grievances against the Corps, including alleged violations of the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

The lawsuit comes three months after a coalition of environmentalists, elected officials, ranchers and property owners filed suit in a state court to overturn approvals granted the pipeline project by the Utah Division of Water Quality.

At issue is a proposed 15-mile-long, 30-inch-diameter pipeline that would deliver 5,000 acre-feet of water per year to the Canyons ski area and nearby communities. The water would be used for snow-making and real estate development.

Environmentalists say the project would further degrade East Canyon reservoir and creek. Water quality in the creek and reservoir has decreased drastically in recent decades.

According to the lawsuit, the state and federal agencies mentioned failed to adequately analyze the environmental impacts of the pipeline project, which

would increase sedimentation in the waters already loaded with pollutants from the growing Park City area.

Pollutants such as nitrogen and phosphorus, and water depletions have caused native populations of Kokanee salmon to disappear and have significantly decreased the number of native Bonneville cut-throat trout, according to the Utah chapter of Trout Unlimited.

The Plaintiffs say that the Corps of Engineers and the Utah Division of Water Quality should prepare a comprehensive environmental impact statement before approving the East Canyon pipeline.

2001 NPS Meetings Set for St. George

For the first time in its 11 year history, the Utah Non-Point Source Water Quality Conference will take place in St. George, UT.

The conference is tentatively scheduled to take place September 25-27 at the Holiday Inn. However, the dates may be subject to change.

Preliminary discussions by the conference planning committee about next year's theme and agenda have just started. However, early indications are that the conference will include a day-long pre-conference training session, a half-day tour, and formal conference sessions over a day-and-a-half period.

Expect to see an official announcement of the theme in this publication in December. A Call for Papers will be ready and announced by February 2001. The agenda and registration materials are scheduled to be released by May or June of 2001.

2000 NPS Conference Provides "River View" of Livestock Management



Many participants at the 2000 Utah Non Point Source Water Quality Conference spent half a day floating a stretch of the Bear River.

Most of the participants at the 10th annual Utah Non-Point Source Water Quality Conference, held in July in Logan, Utah, toured a stretch of the Bear River near Benson aboard rubber rafts as part of the three-day conference. This "river view" gave conference-goers a chance to see the "good, the bad and the ugly" of livestock manure management, one of the major themes of this year's meeting.

"Basically the river looks good as far as the riparian area goes," said Shelly Quick, environmental scientist, Utah Division of Water Quality. "But chemically we know the river is not in as good of shape."

Despite the fact the float trip only covered a couple of miles, the condition changed somewhat the further downstream the group floated.

"There were areas where cows had been fenced off the stream and willows were returning. Further downstream the banks weren't in as good of shape and there was one location where there were stockpiles of manure leading right to the stream."

According to Quick, the practices that appear to need to be changed are relatively simple and inexpensive.

"Simple BMPs could make a huge difference in that stretch of the river," Quick added. The conference meetings in the Eccles Conference Center provided good background information about the concentrated animal feeding operation issue and the stormwater Phase II requirements currently affecting more than 50 communities in Utah.

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Coleman Company Supports Utah Youth

By Karen Johnson
Utah Federation for Youth

For some people, goin' campin' is just another regular weekend hobby. However, many families in Utah do not have the necessary items they need to go camping, no matter how close they live to the mountains. Camping supplies, free time, money and transportation play a huge part in the ability for families to spend time with each other in the great outdoors. That's where The Coleman Company comes in. The first annual "Sheldon Coleman Great Outdoors Award" was presented on August 11, 2000 to the Utah Federation for Youth, an organization that focuses on giving young people hope in their future. The Federation's programs lead youth toward healthy family involvement, community action, leadership experiences, stewardship of the earth, and away from substance abuse and violence. Many of the Federation's programs use environmental stewardship and outdoor activities in nature as a healthy alternative to violence and substance abuse. The award includes \$10,000 worth of Coleman camping equipment. After notification of the award, federation leaders got to "go shopping" through a catalog and choose a variety of supplies to share with the community. The Coleman Award came about because, "Sheldon Coleman, who ran the company for 60 years through some tough times and some wonderful times, was passionate about this idea of introducing all people, but especially

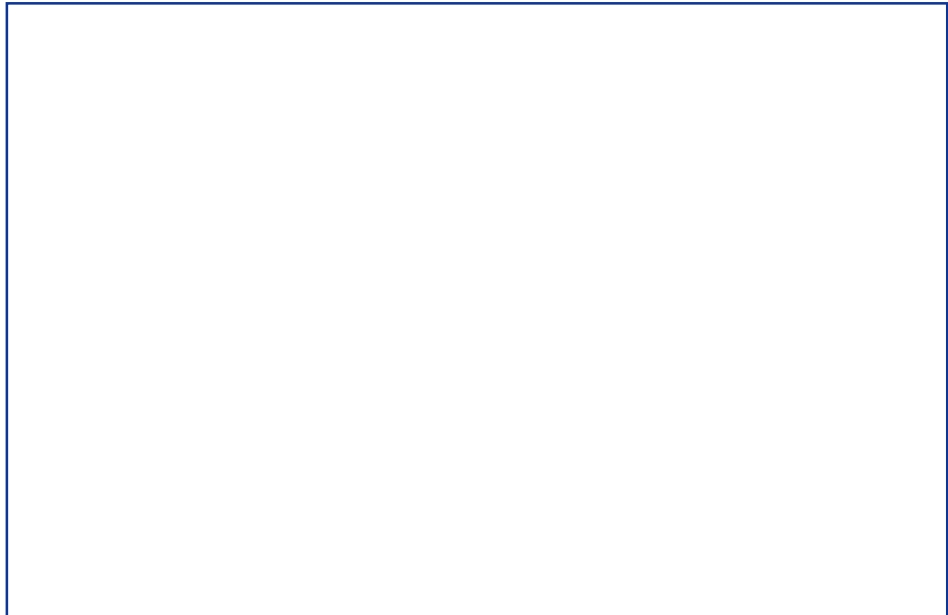
youth, to the outdoors, because he recognized the importance of making that connection when you are young with the outdoors," said Brian Rawson, vice president for marketing for the Coleman Company. The Federation also believes that empowering families to be together, especially through outdoor recreation, leads to healthier and more successful relationships with each other and the earth. To make the camping gear easily accessible to families all over Utah, the Federation, in partnership with the Utah Family Center, will be distributing Coleman supplies in Family Center libraries on the Navajo Reservation in Monument Valley, in Washington County, in Utah County, here in Salt Lake, in the brand new library in Horizante Learning Center, in the Family Enrichment Center in Davis County, and at the Family Center in the Chamber of Commerce building in Logan. Kari Cutler, programs director of the Utah Federation for Youth, says, "The equipment will be available to all interested families to check out for free; as simple as checking out a book on parenting or a video to help your child improve literacy." Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson agrees. He believes that, "for people who have had great outdoor experiences, we know the value in terms of our physical, our mental, and our spiritual wellbeing. These are experiences that are so enriching for our urban youth." And better yet, urban youth who have the luxury of mountains at their back doors.



Utah Lt. Gov. Olene Walker (left, facing forward), talks with James Lyons (center), under secretary of Agriculture, USDA, and Derrick Crandall, pres. American recreation Coalition. Lyons and Crandall were in town for the outdoor retailers show and the Coleman award to the Utah Federation for Youth.

After the Award Ceremony, the Utah Federation for Youth hosted a Dutch oven dinner and weekend camping opportunity in Little Cottonwood Canyon, about 30 southeast of downtown Salt Lake City. Three camp sites at Tanners Flat campground were reserved for about 30 people for the whole weekend of August 11-13. The camping gear was set up, the fire was made, and dinner was cooked by the time a chilly breeze nipped in the air. Youth and adults worked together to cut firewood with new tree saws; set up portable chairs, tables and stoves, assemble tents, and build a warm fire just in time for the evening chill in the air. The stoves were used practically non-stop: to cook, then clean, then cook again. The chairs were a huge

hit, as people gathered 'round to tell jokes, scary stories, and read by Coleman head-lamp around the warm flames. Then came time to try out the new sleeping bags – but just the normal temperature-range bags; the thermal bags were saved for a cooler night. And better yet, the bears didn't even sneak into any of the tents, even though some tents were capable of holding a few hairy creatures. Cutler was ecstatic about the Coleman Award. "By collaborating, combining and maximizing our resources, and continuing to simply 'show-up' in caring ways for our young people," she says, "we can make the difference we are all hoping for: helping our kids grow up to be healthy, happy adults."



Brian Rawson, Coleman Company, presents Kari Cutler, Utah Federation for Youth, with a Coleman lantern as a symbol of the \$10,000 equipment award the federation received. The equipment will be used to help give families and groups camping experiences. For more information: call 801 468-0699.

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Teens Plant Seeds and Water Their Futures

By Karen Johnson
Utah Federation for Youth

This July, a group of about 30 teenagers and environmentalists came together through a camp called PeaceTrees and exercised their stewardship to the earth.

Back at the Ranch (For the First Time)

At the Tri-Star Ranch in Kamas, they planted 190 trees and bushes by a stream that zigzags down the middle of the Ranch. The plants are expected to survive better than those planted a year ago, which have died, because their roots are no more than five feet away from the river. The ground water is the support system that the roots soak up in order to stay hydrated, and, since it is a drought year, the stream water is especially essential to the plants' survival.

For some of the teenagers, this was their first opportunity to do service for the earth. One young man said, "This is the first tree I've ever planted!", showing how disconnected many youth are from the nature in our urban landscape. For many, a magical connection with the earth was made during this experience and education of planting trees. "I named a tree, 'Bob'". It was the first name that came to my mind, and usually the first name is the best," said Chris, another PeaceTrees participant. The teens and the trees can grow because they were given a chance to explore nature in a hands-on manner.

Lake Work

The group later traveled to Decker Lake in West Valley City, right off of I-215, to plant water-thriving cattails, rushes, and other swampy shrubs along the banks of the Lake. Although the lake is a runoff pool for toxins, waste, and other unnatural substances, the plants help reduce the pollution by processing them in their own systems. Two participants, Brynn Janke, 19 and Brooke Behunin, 17, who sank in the mud as if it were quicksand, expressed their unbelievable adventures.

"Since I'm supposed to be older and more mature now, it was a really fun experience to pretend I was five and make mud pies again; and hey, I got to do service, laughed Jenke"

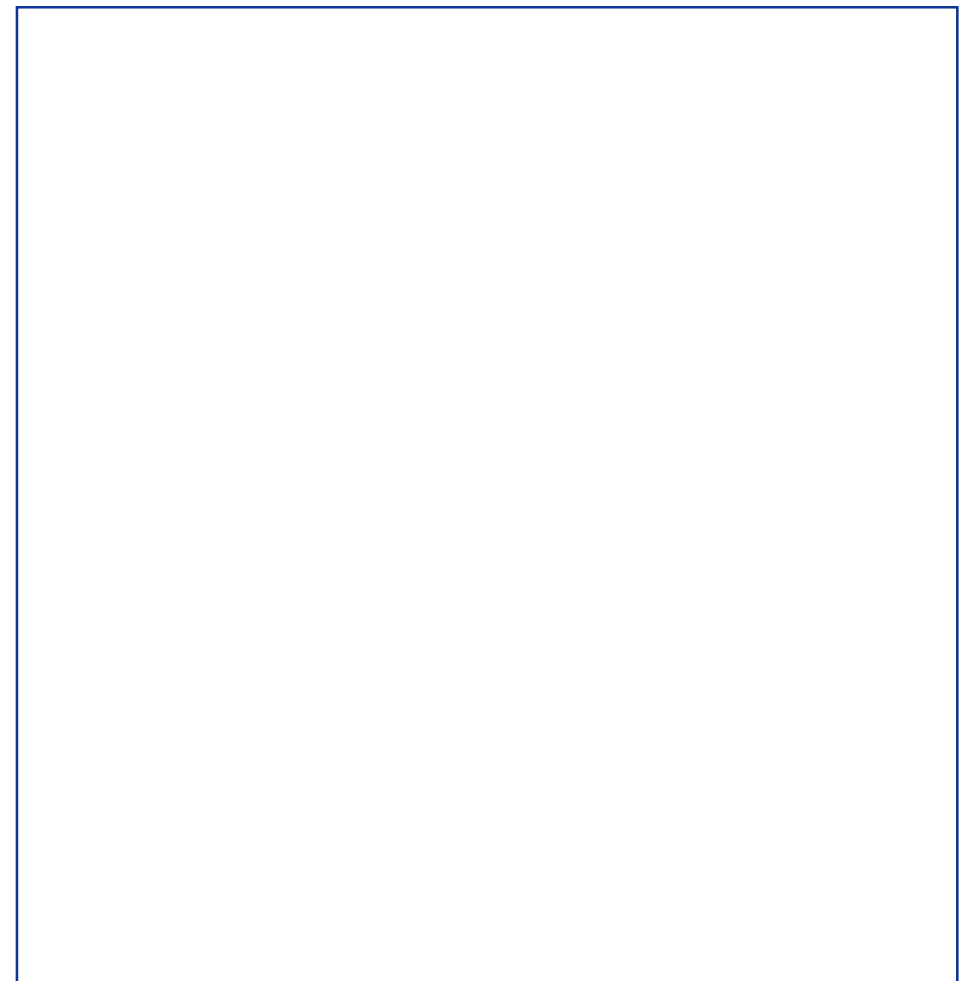
The Original Site

A natural park along the bend of

the Jordan River at 1600 S. 1100 W. connects two previously isolated communities. By moving a bridge from an unproductive passage to a new crossing over the river, neighbors have grown closer to each other and, thanks to easy access, police have been able to reduce crime and drug dealings in the park. During "Community Day Out" at PeaceTrees 2000, this park was turned into an information carnival. Organizations from Utah Society for Environmental Education, 4-H, and Utah State University, to the Utah Army National Guard and their "natural high" climbing wall came to help neighbors in that area unite in a positive manner.

Only from these experiences could bodies *by* water become part of bodies *of* water; by shedding coats of ignorance and prejudice, people are able to dive into the real issues we face as one whole world today...sowing seeds of hope for future generations to reap.

Karen Johnson is a high school senior at West Jordan high and an intern for the Utah Federation for youth. She has participated in PeaceTrees for three years.



Jacob Sealey, a three-year PeaceTrees veteran as a participant and most recently as a peer counselor/participant. Sealey knows very well that PeaceTrees is largely about hard work and environmental stewardship.



One of the cornerstones of the PeaceTrees experience is working in the community. Here participants are folding flyers that they will deliver to neighborhood residents. Many of the people who attended the subsequent day out find out about the event from the information distributed by the PeaceTrees participants.

EPA, States Team Up for New Non Point Source Management Partnership

The Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASIWPCA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have joined together to form a new State/EPA Nonpoint Source Management Partnership. The Partnership provides an excellent framework for States and EPA to work together cooperatively to identify, prioritize, and solve nonpoint source problems.

The States and EPA initiated the new partnership at a national nonpoint source meeting sponsored jointly by ASIWPCA and EPA in April 2000, when States and EPA came together to identify high-priority nonpoint source needs that they want to work together on regarding the implementation their Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Programs. Over the past several years, States have been working hard to "upgrade" and improve their Section 319 programs, and the new Partnership is a timely endeavor to support the States in identifying and satisfying their technical and programmatic needs in implementing the newly enhanced and upgraded nonpoint source programs.

The States and EPA have established seven work groups to focus on nonpoint source topic-specific needs, including: watershed planning and implementation; rural nonpoint sources; urban nonpoint sources; nonpoint source grants management; nonpoint source capacity building and funding; information transfer and outreach; and nonpoint source results. Each workgroup is comprised of a chair and co-chair (one EPA/one State), as well as other EPA and State representatives. A State/EPA Steering Committee, comprised of the chairpersons of each individual work group, has also been established to oversee the new Partnership effectively. Roberta Savage, Executive Director of ASIWPCA, and Elizabeth Fellows, Director of the Assessment and Watershed Protection Division at EPA, co-chair the Partnership's Steering Committee.

Each work group has identified its respective needs and priorities, and has developed individual action plans as to how they intend to address their needs over the next several years.

Highlights of work group priorities include:

Watershed Planning and Implementation Workgroup. Strengthening the links between nonpoint source

assessment and implementation activities by sharing examples of NPS total maximum daily loads (TMDLs)/ watershed management approaches and related useful tools; and facilitating flexible approaches to watershed problem solving across EPA and other Federal/State agencies and programs.

Rural Nonpoint Sources Workgroup. Providing technical guidance to States in developing and implementing Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs); surveying and facilitating the distribution of educational materials relating to Animal Feeding Operations and Confined Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs/CAFOs); and sharing information on rural best management practice (BMP) effectiveness and research gaps.

Urban Nonpoint Sources Workgroup. Identifying effective BMPs; and providing support for municipal stormwater program activities.

Nonpoint Source Grants Management Workgroup. Exploring options to streamline and simplify the 319 grant awards process; and developing/sharing examples of ways to enhance the involvement of local communities in nonpoint source activities with Federal and State financial support.

Nonpoint Source Capacity Building and Funding Workgroup. Researching successful state financial and program capacity building programs, identifying measures of success; and collecting good examples of effective state marketing tools.

Information Transfer and Outreach Workgroup. Researching existing nonpoint source-related education materials and developing a good model for integrating into school curricula; and conducting a media campaign to educate the general public about nonpoint source problems.

Nonpoint Source Results Workgroup. Enhancing state and national systems to enable us to report more accurately and comprehensively to both Congress and the general public what is being accomplished through implementation of the nonpoint source program.

The Partnership plans to communi-

cate workgroup activities and accomplishments through active use of NPS News-Notes, nonpoint source list-servers, future EPA web site updates, and through other means, in addition to interaction at scheduled stakeholder meetings.

Both EPA and ASIWPCA are excited about the new partnership, believing that this effort will capitalize on, benefit from, and support, the newly enhanced and upgraded nonpoint source management programs.

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EPA Officials Meet in Utah, Tour Local Farm

National meeting includes stop at a Morgan dairy farm

In late June top EPA officials from Washington D.C. and regional offices throughout the country spent the evening in the mountain valley of Morgan, UT. as part of national EPA meetings being held in Salt Lake City.

While in Morgan, the officials were guest of a local dairy farmer, Dee Waldren, who opened his entire farm to them for the evening. Tours were

conducted that demonstrated every aspect of the farm. Participants in the tour were divided into five groups and dispersed on a rotating basis to the various areas of the farm.

At the milk barn the visitors saw how milk is collected, pasteurize and stored. While at the feed storage area, they were shown how the feed is mixed economically for the best nutritional balance. Officials were informed about laser leveling at a corn field and told how laser leveling aids irrigation and prevents erosion. Another area of the farm that the group toured was the manure handling and storage area where the farm's nutrient management plan was explained. The top experience for many of the urban people in attendance was a chance to drive the John Deere tractor pulling a disk for ground preparation.

Following the tour the group was treated to a barbecue and dutch oven dinner.

According to one EPA official from Washington, the evening at the farm was very successful. He added that this was the first time that some of the officials had been on a farm. He explained that many in attendance learned much from the evening that would help in their daily work. Others of the group were amazed by the complexity of farming and the vast knowledge that farmers need to have. For Waldren and other local hosts, the highlight was to see the expressions on the faces of the various top environmental officials as they drove the tractor with childlike exuberance.